

is unknown. A visit later in the season may yet reveal the evasive *Carex*.—M. L. FERNALD, Gray Herbarium.

TETRAMERISM IN TRILLIUM UNDULATUM.—Last May in the course of a walk in the rain in Salisbury, Connecticut, Mrs. Weatherby and I ran across three plants of painted trillium in which all the parts (leaves, sepals, petals, stigmas and cells of the ovary) were in fours except the stamens. These had increased in their usual proportion of two to each petal and numbered eight. The plants were of average size and vigor, all parts were perfectly and symmetrically developed, and all the stamens and stigmas appeared to be functioning normally. In the Gray Herbarium is a specimen of a precisely similar plant collected at Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire by Miss K. L. Kimball in May, 1891.

The genus *Trillium* is rather noted for its tendency to develop eccentric forms. A good many such have been reported (as for instance by Deane, RHODORA x. 21–24 and 214–216 and xii. 63, and Goodspeed, Univ. California Pub. vii. 69–100). One line of teratological variation which crops out in several species, is in the number of parts of the foliar and floral whorls. Cases in which an abnormal number is carried consistently through all the whorls appear, however, to be rare. One completely tetramerous plant of *Trillium grandiflorum* has been reported by Victorin (Nat. Canadien xl. 113) and one of *T. sessile* by Eastwood (Erythrea iv. 71): but there appears to be no published account of such a form in *T. undulatum*. The present note is put forth by way of completing the record.

It may be added that there is in the herbarium of the New England Botanical Club a specimen of *T. undulatum* with a withered flower, collected by Fernald at Houlton, Maine, June 27, 1899, in which the leaves and sepals and so far as can be made out from the fragments of them which remain, the petals are in fives.—C. A. WEATHERBY, Gray Herbarium.

AXYRIS AMARANTOIDES IN EASTERN AMERICA.—For some years the Russian and Siberian annual, *Axyris amarantoides* L., has been naturalized as a weed in Manitoba and North Dakota and it has spread thence southward to Missouri (May, 1918, *Bush*, no. 8308) and westward to Alberta (July, 1922, *Brinkman*, no. 752). It is not

yet a general weed in eastern America, but its recent collection at three distinct eastern points indicates that it is making its way to us. On July 24, 1921, Mrs. Eleanor M. Mead sent to the Gray Herbarium a specimen of it, collected as a strange weed at North Bridgton, Maine; the next day (July 25, 1921) Messrs. Bartram, Long and I found a single plant of it by a roadside at Windsor, Nova Scotia; and on August 28, 1926, Messrs. Long, Fogg and I, while lingering on shore during the stop at Gaspé, Gaspé Co., Quebec, of the Newfoundland steamer, found the same strange weed in profusion in rubbish on the beach. It is thus clear that *Axyris* is finding eastern America. The plant is easily recognized: although belonging in the *Chenopodiaceae* it strongly suggests an Amaranth, or perhaps *Mercurialis annua* L., in its dry texture; while its little staminate spikes raised high above the pistillate give it a unique appearance.—M. L. FERNALD, Gray Herbarium.

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